

ABSTRACT

A pallet frame assembly is designed to support and retain various loads with the interior of a commercial aircraft. Moreover, the pallet assembly maintains those loads in a manner which facilitates the removable but secure attachment of a load retaining cover or the like structure in overlying relation to the freight mounted on the base of the pallet. More specifically, the pallet frame assembly comprises a base formed preferably, but not necessarily, of a solid sheet of high strength, light weight material, such as, for example, metal. The base is connectable with a track assembly which forms a frame. The track assembly preferably comprises a plurality of track segments, and four segments are used for a pallet having a rectangular or square shape. Each of the track segments might also be formed of a light weight, high strength metal, or other suitable material. Each track segment terminates in a manner to abut another track segment in a perpendicular relationship, and each further comprises a channel to accept a substantially L-shaped bracket which is riveted, or otherwise securely fastened, to the adjoining track segments. Each track segment is configured to have an extended inner edge over which the interior of the bracket has a corresponding extension which overlaps the edge and thus secures each track segment together when the bracket is affixed to the respective segments. The track segment also has a channel near its outer edge into which a depending flange from the bracket is inserted. In this configuration the bracket securely fastens both the outer and inner edges of the track assembly once it is riveted in place.